

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-28. (Canceled).

29. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

estimating, by a server device implemented as a single computer system or as a network or cluster of computer processors, a breadth of a search query;

identifying user interaction with a first document in a result set that is responsive to the search query;

changing, by the server device, a ranking of a popularity of the first document based at least in part on the user interaction with the first document and the breadth of the search query, wherein an amount of the change in the ranking of the popularity decreases with increased breadth of the search query; and

making, by the server device, the ranking of the popularity of the first document available for responding to a subsequent search query.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises estimating the breadth based on a total number of documents in a result set that is responsive to the search query.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises estimating the breadth of the search query based on differences in relevances of documents in the result set.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises comparing rates at which the documents in the result set are retrieved.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document comprises weighting the user interaction with the first document based on the breadth of the search query.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document further comprises adding the weighted user interaction to a popularity database configured to store measures of a popularity of documents.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein identifying user interaction with the first document comprises determining a click count for the first document.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein identifying user interaction with the first document comprises determining a click-through ratio for the first document.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein identifying the user interaction with the first document comprises identifying the user interaction independent of a search query.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising responding, by the server device, to a subsequent search query based at least in part on the ranking of the popularity of the first document.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein responding to the subsequent search query comprises adjusting a ranking of documents in the response to the subsequent search query based at least in part on the ranking of the popularity of the first document.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document comprising increasing the ranking of the popularity of the first document.

41. (Previously Presented) An article comprising one or more machine-readable data storage media storing instructions operable to cause one or more machines to perform operations comprising:

- estimating a breadth of a search query;
- identifying user interaction with a first document in a result set that is responsive to the search query;
- changing a ranking of a popularity of the first document based at least in part on the user interaction with the first document and the breadth of the search query, wherein an amount of the change in the ranking of the popularity decreases with increased breadth of the search query; and
- making the ranking of the popularity of the first document available for responding to a subsequent search query.

42. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises estimating the breadth based on a total number of documents in a result set that is responsive to the search query.

43. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises estimating the breadth of the search query based on differences in relevances of documents in the result set.

44. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises comparing rates at which the documents in the result set are retrieved.

45. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document comprises weighting the user interaction with the first document based on the breadth of the search query.

46. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 45, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document further comprises adding the weighted user interaction to a popularity database configured to store measures of a popularity of documents.

47. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41, wherein identifying user interaction with the first document comprises determining a click count for the first document.

48. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41, wherein identifying user interaction with the first document comprises determining a click-through ratio for the first document.

49. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41, wherein identifying the user interaction with the first document comprises identifying the user interaction independent of a search query.

50. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41, further comprising responding to a subsequent search query based at least in part on the ranking of the popularity of the first document.

51. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 50, wherein responding to the subsequent search query comprises adjusting a ranking of documents in the response to the subsequent search query based at least in part on the ranking of the popularity of the first document.

52. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~[[50]]~~ 41, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document comprising increasing the ranking of the popularity of the first document.

53. (New) A system comprising:
a server device implemented as a single computer system or as a network or cluster of computer processors, the server device programmed to perform operations, the operations

comprising:

estimating a breadth of a search query;

identifying user interaction with a first document in a result set that is responsive to the search query;

changing a ranking of a popularity of the first document based at least in part on the user interaction with the first document and the breadth of the search query, wherein an amount of the change in the ranking of the popularity decreases with increased breadth of the search query; and

making the ranking of the popularity of the first document available for responding to a subsequent search query.

54. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the server device executes a search engine application program.

55. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the system further comprises:
a data communication network coupled to the server device; and
a data processing device programmed to transmit the search query over the data communication network to the server device.

56. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein the data processing device comprises a client device with a search engine interface having a query field..

57. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein the data processing device comprises a proxy server.

58. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises estimating the breadth based on a total number of documents in a result set that is responsive to the search query.

59. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises estimating the breadth of the search query based on differences in relevances of documents in the result set.

60. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein estimating the breadth of the search query comprises comparing rates at which the documents in the result set are retrieved.

61. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document comprises weighting the user interaction with the first document based on the breadth of the search query.

62. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document further comprises adding the weighted user interaction to a popularity database configured to store measures of a popularity of documents.

63. (New) The system of claim 55 wherein identifying user interaction with the first document comprises determining a click count for the first document.

64. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein identifying user interaction with the first document comprises determining a click-through ratio for the first document.

65. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein identifying the user interaction with the first document comprises identifying the user interaction independent of a search query.

66. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein the operations further comprise responding to a subsequent search query based at least in part on the ranking of the popularity of the first document.

67. (New) The system of claim 66, wherein responding to the subsequent search query comprises adjusting a ranking of documents in the response to the subsequent search query based at least in part on the ranking of the popularity of the first document.

68. (New) The system of claim 55, wherein changing the ranking of the popularity of the first document comprising increasing the ranking of the popularity of the first document.